



# High Holidays 5751

## Schedule

**B**elow are the dates, times, and locations of all High Holidays services.

**Selichot**—*Congregation Sha'ar Zahav*  
Saturday, September 15  
9:00 pm, potluck and study

**Rosh Hashanah, First Day**—*Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin at Geary*  
Wednesday, September 19  
7:30 pm, Ma'ariv  
Thursday, September 20  
10:00 am, Shacharit, Musaf, and Children's Service  
1:30 pm, Seudat Mitzvah (festival meal) at Fort Point  
3:30 pm, Tashlich at Fort Point

**Rosh Hashanah, Second Day**—*CSZ*  
Friday, September 21  
10:00 am, Shacharit and Musaf

**Shabbat Shuvah**—*CSZ*  
Friday, September 21  
8:15 pm, Ma'ariv  
Saturday, September 22  
10:30 am, Shacharit  
4:00 pm, Healing Service

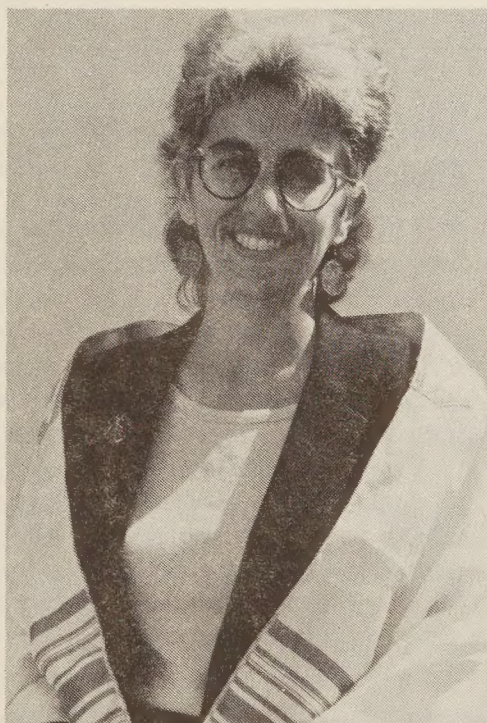
**Yom Kippur**—*Unitarian Center*  
Friday, September 28  
7:30 pm, Kol Nidre  
Saturday, September 29  
10:00 am, Shacharit, Musaf, and Children's Service  
3:30 pm, Minchah  
5:00 pm, Yizkor, Neilah, and Havdallah

**Sukkot**—*CSZ*  
Wednesday, October 3  
8:15 pm, Ma'ariv  
Thursday, October 4  
10:30 am, Shacharit

**Simchat Torah**—*CSZ*  
Wednesday, October 10  
8:15 pm, Ma'ariv  
Thursday, October 11  
10:30 am, Shacharit

## Logistics

**C**ongregation Sha'ar Zahav will welcome and celebrate the New Year 5751 during High Holiday services in the beautiful sanctuaries of the Unitarian Center at Franklin and Geary streets, and at our own synagogue. Rosh Hashanah, the New Year, begins on Wednesday evening, September 19, and Yom



*Merry Luskin, our new president of the congregation for this new year.*

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

Kippur, the Day of Atonement, follows nine days later, beginning with Kol Nidre on Friday evening, September 28. The High Holiday season begins at Selichot on Saturday evening, September 15, and concludes with Simchat Torah on October 10-11.

In our tradition of lay leadership and community involvement at Sha'ar Zahav, our High Holiday services will be led by various members of the Ritual Committee, with participation from

*Continued on page 10*

## Attendance Policy

**I**f you were present at last year's High Holiday services at the Unitarian Center you know that we and our guests have outgrown the sanctuary there. Last year many more people than could fit attempted to find seats in the sanctuary. Hundreds of non-members, many of whom came hours early to get a seat, were directed to overflow rooms in other parts of the Unitarian Center. They were not pleased. Many members who arrived late could not be seated in the sanctuary at all. They were even less pleased.

Our membership has soared to over 525 people; the sanctuary holds 750. Clearly, the sanctuary is not adequate to hold all of our members (plus one guest apiece), let alone the hundreds of non-members who wish to attend.

The experience of last year taught us that, regrettably, we must alter our tradition of completely open attendance at the evening High Holiday services. After considerable discussion, our Va'ad (board) voted to implement a system of advance ticket registration for Rosh Hashanah evening and Yom Kippur evening (Kol Nidre).

The main sanctuary will be reserved exclusively for members and their invited guests. Everyone else will be directed to the chapel or the Martin Luther King room where sound from the main sanctuary will be piped in, and where CSZ members will officiate.

To enter the sanctuary, members and their guests will present tickets. Members should have already received a ticket request form and returned it to the office. (Any member who has not received a form should call Claudia Bernard at 647-1196 immediately.) Members will receive one ticket for themselves for each service requested. Members were also given the opportunity to request one

*Continued on page 7*



## New Year Nuances

Most of us have just started thinking about the High Holidays, but the holidays have been on my mind since just after Passover. Soon before my term as president of CSZ began, I started working at Hillel. I am now entering my busy season—bookkeepers have fiscal closing, shepherds have lambing time, and Jewish community workers have the High Holidays. Recently I stopped my work—and synagogue-related frenzy—long enough to observe how ironic it is that as my Jewish involvement has increased, my experience of the spiritual riches of Jewish observance has decreased.

What came to mind about the holidays is how wonderful it is that Jews have a mandate to engage in introspection and clean up our lives once a year. This process is much deeper and more meaningful than the New Year's resolutions of the secular new year. It is a common joke that those resolutions are made to be broken, whereas many of us take deeply to heart the command that, at Rosh Hashanah, we look honestly at our lives, rectify unfinished business, recognize our responsibility in misunderstandings, ask for forgiveness, and forgive others.

Those of us who seriously attempt to accomplish this are often dismayed to discover that we cannot, in fact, do it—we are not able to let go of anger and grudges, or to go to people and announce our forgiveness or request theirs. We are disappointed that we cannot experience the relief and beauty of a slate that is truly wiped clean. Some of us may feel that we have failed before ourselves and

God, even feeling guilty and inadequate at this most spiritually demanding of times. I do not feel that the goal of this time of personal inventory is to feel bad about ourselves.

Those of us who think in such terms feel the eyes of God upon us in this season. Rather than a demanding God who is administering a rigorous test and will be angry if we fail, let us think of God at this time as a loving parent who is encouraging us to stretch and seek to be our best possible selves. God encourages and even pushes us to try, yet understands the difficulties and will still find us lovable if we do not succeed on all counts. This is a time to practice caring for ourselves as well as with our relationships with others.

May you find encouragement, love, and bravery in the New Year.

## The Akedah: Sarah's Point of View

The biblical account of the binding of Isaac, our Rosh Hashanah Torah reading, tells what happens to Abraham and Isaac. Missing from the Torah's narrative is Sarah's perspective and role in the story. Drawing from classical Jewish sources and her own story of the text, CSZ member Lori Ubell has written a modern midrash about the Akedah which speaks to the silence about women's experience in our texts. Instead of a sermon at Rosh Hashanah morning services, Lori will read her commentary, "Sarah's Voice."

*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, co-chairs, Leonard Brill, Joan Gelfand, Lane Schickler and Robin Leonard (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger and Shirley Liberman (photographers), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Allan Brandstein, Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Hal Podgur, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

## Join us for shabbat dinner at Sha'ar Zahav

Friday, September 14, 6:30 pm

\$11 for members • \$18 for non-members • \$5 for children

Limited seating • Reservations must be received by September 10

Call Marc Mencher at 626-9592 • Scholarships available

Specify vegetarian or fish (all meals kosher)

Send check to Mark at the office.





## 1990-91 Adult Education

**CSZ, Lehrhaus Judaica, and JCC** are co-sponsoring three courses to be held in the CSZ library.

### **Prayerbook Hebrew**

Designed to teach the fundamentals of Hebrew to those with little or no prior knowledge, this is an opportunity for parents of our Kadimah students, as well as those CSZ members and the community who do not know Hebrew to learn to read the "language of our people."

Instructor: Phyllis Mintzer.

Dates: Wednesdays, October 17–December 19.

Time: 7:15–8:30 pm.

### **Introduction to Judaism**

A repeat of a very successful course given in past years, a survey of Jewish theology, sacred literature, prayers, holidays, and life-cycle. A course for both Jews and non-Jews who want to enrich their basic knowledge of Judaism, and for individuals considering conversion.

Instructor: Phyllis Mintzer.

Dates: Wednesdays, October 17–December 19

Time: 8:30–9:45 pm

### **Feminism and Judaism**

An expanded continuation of the spring semester course, exploring the role of women in Judaism from Biblical times through the present day, using original texts and modern commentaries. A course for both men and women, Jews and non-Jews.

Instructor: Emily Silverman.

Dates: Tuesdays, October 15–December 18.

Time: 7:30–9 pm.

The cost for each course is \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members.

The Education Committee will pay \$20 toward the course costs for each CSZ member, bringing the price down to \$20.

Please make reservations through the office. All checks should be made out to Jewish Community Center, **not** to CSZ.

Rabbi Kahn will be teaching four workshops this fall which will be held at the synagogue and are free to members.

### **The Liturgy of the High Holidays**

Designed to explore the special themes of the liturgy unique to the High Holidays and to enhance our appreciation of these holidays.

Date: Tuesday, September 11.

Time: 7:30–9 pm.

### **What Do We Mean by "Sin, Judgment and Forgiveness"?**

(Please see accompanying article "Selichot" on page 14)

Date: Saturday, September 15.

Time: 9:30 pm.

### **Liturgy**

Exploring the content of our liturgy, this course probes its origins and its placement in our services and is designed to give you a greater appreciation of our services.

Date: Tuesdays, January 29–February 12.

Time: 7:45–9:15 pm.

### **Passover**

Discussing Passover in both traditional and contemporary contexts.

Date: Tuesdays, February 19–March 5.

Time: 7:45–9:15 pm.

Please make all reservations through the office.

### **"Twice Blessed" Workshops**

- Coming Out, October 20

- Jewish Background and Diversity, November 17

- Theological and Historic Sources, January 19

- Jews by Choice, February 16

- Sex, April 20

- Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, May 18.

These one-day workshops are designed to give an in-depth look into one subject that is of importance to us as gays, lesbians and Jews. The panels for each workshop are still being formed and your input thus will be greatly appreciated.

All the workshops will be held at CSZ (unless you are willing to host one at your home) and will begin with a small buffet (sponsored by the committee) at 12:30 pm. The workshop itself will be from 1 pm until 4 pm. Advance reservations are necessary in order to ensure proper amounts of food. Please address all your suggestions, recommendations and reservations to Elliot Gordon at 252-1253.

The Adult Education Committee and A Different Light Bookshop are co-sponsoring two book readings.

- Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz, author of "My Jewish Face and Other Stories," is tentatively set to speak at the bookstore on October 13.

- Lev Raphael, author of "Dancing on Tisha B'Av," will be reading excerpts from his new book at the bookstore on December 2.

### **Tu B'shevat**

The Adult Education Committee will be sponsoring two Tu B'shevat seders—one for children and families and the other for adults. Beverly Hewett will coordinate the East Bay children and family seder and Robert Coffman will coordinate the adult seder in San Francisco. Future issues of the *Forward* will contain more details.

### **Personalizing Passover II**

Due to the tremendous success of last year's Camp Swig weekend, we are going back again this year on March 15–17. We are in the process of forming a committee to handle the many details needed to make this event a success. If you are interested please contact Elliot Gordon (252-1253).

## **Library Update**

The beginning of a new year is a time for taking assessment as well as looking forward. I took stock and found over 300 book titles, including the Zohar, the Midrash Rabbah, the Talmud, the Schulchan Aruch, the Rabbinic Bible, and the Encyclopedia Judaica. There are also histories, literary collections, more than 50 children's books, six videotapes, and over 60 audio cassettes.

Among those cassettes are the tapes that many of you will want to use for studying for the High Holidays. Check it out as you would a book.

Looking forward ... By Rosh Hashanah 5752 (1991), all of our tapes will be duplicated and, therefore, on the shelves. Thirty new titles have been approved for purchase. Among them are books on parenting, liturgy, women and Bible studies.

The Fiction Connection will meet at the Patio Restaurant on September 26 at 7:30 pm to discuss David Leavitt's *Equal Affections*.

On Saturday, September 15, David Leavitt will be at A Different Light Bookshop for a signing and book reading of *Equal Affections*.

—Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Librarian



## The Sounds of the Shofar

The sound of the shofar is my most enduring association with the High Holidays. Symbols, by their nature, cannot be fully explained in words; verbal descriptions point to the full meaning of our symbols yet never completely reveal their multiple layers of significance. Our tradition explains the sounds and cycles of the blasts of the shofar in many different ways; what follows is one of the meanings the shofar might suggest to us when we hear its calls on this New Year.

At the Rosh Hashanah Musaf service, we hear the shofar in separate cycles, which are called *Zichronot*—Remembrance, *Malchuyot*—Sovereignty, and *Shofrot*—Shofar Blasts. These three motifs remind me of the purpose of our gathering together. First, we come together as an act of remembrance. When we join together in community on these sacred days, we are linked with our people across 4,000 years of history, even as we also are linked with Jews around the world today. For those of you who feel that you do not “know enough” to participate fully, your mere presence is an act of participation. For those of you who are unsure of what you believe or if the ancient words we say can become your own, I invite you to come for the sake of *Zichronot*—as an act of honor, memory and solidarity with our people, our tradition and our faith.

*Zichronot* is not limited to our historical past. Rosh Hashanah is also a day of remembrance of our *personal* past. The New Year is a time of new beginnings; but we will begin only if we give honest consideration to our past. Judaism summons us to a deliberate and careful internal examination of ourselves and our relationships, urging us to heal our bonds with others that we might in turn make whole our relationship with God.

*Malchuyot* means “sovereignty.” In ancient times, a ruler’s coronation was announced with blasts of the shofar and, in Judaism’s liturgical symbolism, God is enthroned as sovereign of the universe on Rosh Hashanah. Divinity as royalty is a central image in the Bible and in our tradition; it is not, however, very meaningful to most of us. How do we understand the shofar’s proclamation of *Malchuyot*? For me, *Malchuyot* can only be understood in contrast to idolatry. I

have no question that we live in as idolatrous a world as did any of our biblical ancestors—even if our idols today are not wooden or stone statues. The priorities and allocation of resources in our society and our world reflect this idolatrous culture. On Yom Kippur, we review some of the many misplaced priorities and idolatrous values common around and which we may sometimes use. Throughout the High Holiday season, we ask ourselves: what is most important in my life and in the world? Am I living my life in such a manner that I honor with my commitments and actions what I declare to be most important? The midrash explains the Torah verse, “You will be My witness and I will be Your God” as properly understood to read: “When you are My witnesses, then I am God; and when you are not My witnesses, I am not God.” *Malchuyot* summons us to recognize and proclaim what is properly sovereign in our lives.

The third and final group of shofar

blasts are called *Shofrot*—which literally means the sound of the shofar. The sound of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah hints to us of the “great shofar of liberation” which will announce the end of all exile and bondage. If, as the midrash suggests, God’s presence is dependent on our actions, then the great shofar of liberation will be sounded when we heed the call of the *Shofrot* of our shofar. The broken cry of the shofar recalls the cry of the oppressed, in our immediate community and in the world. We answer its call when we hear their pain and when we commit to working toward healing and justice.

My prayer is that our worship together during this High Holiday season—and especially the sounds of the shofar—will be a source of inspiration, renewal and strength for you and all who are with us. May you and all your loved ones be inscribed for a year of blessing, a year of peace, a year of liberation. *L’shanah tovah tikatevu!*

## Legal help.

In contracts and leases,  
wills and powers of attorney,  
real estate, business law and litigation.

## Goldstein & Gellman

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W



Call David Gellman  
415/621-2966

1540 Market Street, Suite 490, San Francisco, CA 94102



## Long-Range Planning

The Long-Range Planning Committee has been diligently working to produce a working and vibrant plan for CSZ's future. We are now in the final stretch of that process and hope to have a draft plan out for review by early January. We will soon begin meeting with leaders and interested members to talk about detailed aspects of the plan.

Our plan is based on a model that has been used by many other Reform congregations. We will begin with a mission statement: a statement of who we are and what we aim to be. Then, we divide our congregational life into nine separate areas:

- Membership (inclusiveness, participation, etc.)
- Health and support services
- Facilities and staff
- Governance
- Finances
- Ritual activities
- Education
- Social programming
- Outreach and social action

The remaining elements of the plan are organized around these nine areas. In each of the nine categories, several goals will be established. These will be broad, simple, directive statements. They will not, as a rule, be measurable or quantifiable, frequently being idealized and not necessarily readily achievable.

For each goal, we will create three or four specific objectives that give measurable, achievable, realistic ways to arrive at each goal.

Finally, for each objective we will generate work statements giving concrete steps toward achieving each objective. These statements will include assignments of specific tasks to specific individuals or committees, as well as deadlines and dates and budgetary considerations.

The committee has now completed the process of drafting goals and objectives in each of the nine planning areas. We now will meet with committees and interested members to develop working statements in each of those areas. We are scheduling nine meetings (one meeting for each planning area) in September and October. Everyone interested in helping us plan for Sha'ar Zahav's future in a particular area is welcome to attend these meetings.

Each meeting will be chaired by members of our committee, who will solicit input on the goals and objectives. The group will then begin the process of drafting the working statements. We do not expect that all the working statements will be completed in one meeting; rather, we will begin the work at the meeting and delegate responsibility for further work to the relevant people and/or committees. Members of our committee will continue to work with those people/committees.

Copies of the draft goals and objectives for a particular area can be obtained before the meeting on that area by calling Tiela Chalmers at 431-4312. We will encourage committees to discuss the goals, objectives and working statements relevant to their committees before the meeting on those areas.

After the plan has been developed it will be submitted to the Va'ad for approval at the February meeting, allowing it to be incorporated into the budgetary process for the 1991-1992 fiscal year. (The plan will include an "evaluation function" to monitor implementation of the plan, make mid-stream corrections to the plan, and to assess the overall effectiveness of the planning program.)

The September meetings are:

- Health and Support, Wednesday, September 5
- Social Programming, Thursday, September 6.
- Finances, Wednesday, September 12.

All meetings will be held upstairs at the synagogue and will begin at 6:30 pm. We encourage all members interested in planning in one or more of these areas to attend. *Single members and those in their 20s or over 50 are particularly encouraged to attend.*

If you are unable to attend a particular meeting, please mail your remarks to the Long-Range Planning Committee at the synagogue.

## Freedom Sunday

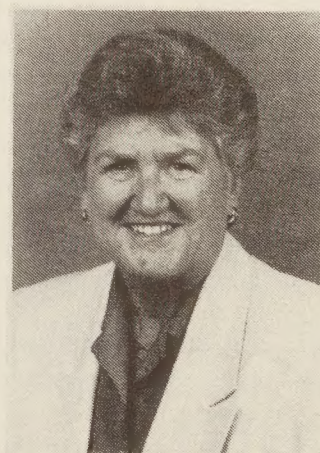
On Sunday, October 7, throughout the Bay Area, synagogue members will participate in the community-wide fundraising drive sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation to raise funds for Operation Exodus. Prior to the phonathon, congregations are participating in a special mail appeal.

### Don't make a move...

without talking to me *first*

Buying, selling,  
or investment  
Real Estate.

Free consultation.  
Free home evaluation.



**Call Shirley Liberman**

**(415) 863-7500 Ext. 123**



**Hartford Properties**

1929 Market Street  
San Francisco

*Discount or referral fee to CSZ members*



## July Va'ad Report

The July meeting was the new Va'ad's first. Rabbi Kahn led us in D'var Torah, beginning with his studies of commentaries on God's appearance in the burning bush, Moses' questions about whether he would be believed, and who he should say sent him. An early Midrash tells of a secret word that had been passed down from Abraham through the generations to a woman elder who was able to recognize Moses when he spoke this word. Rabbi Kahn talked about the physical signs being less important than the reliability of tradition being passed on. He also spoke of women as sources and holders of the tradition, as in this story of this woman who alone could affirm or deny the validity of Moses.

Merry Luskin began her first meeting as president by appointing Allan Gold as vice president and Lin Turner as the Va'ad member who will serve out the remainder of Leslie Bergson's term. Both were voted in unanimously. Rabbi Kahn reported on the Haggadah project. Copyright issues have been raised over some material that was contributed prior to an amendment to our publications policy. The synagogue is working on a solution agreeable to all parties involved. Rabbi Kahn also informed the Va'ad that because he is overextended he will be cutting back on certain categories of appointments and commitments.

Merry presented the following commendation of Rabbi Kahn for the unanimous approval of the Va'ad: "The Va'ad of CSZ hereby commends Rabbi Yoel Kahn for your contributions towards the acceptance of openly gay and lesbian rabbis by the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Your impassioned and articulate efforts have made steps possible to assure the civil and religious rights of gay and lesbian Jews in this country. As a result of your ability to open hearts and minds, the Reform Movement has become one of the leaders in the fight for our increasing acceptance and participation in the greater Jewish world."

Merry reported that much was accomplished at the Advance on July 6-8. An Advance Follow-up Committee will report to the Va'ad with its recommendations in September. The Long-Range Planning Committee will be incorporating the ideas generated at the Advance

into their planning, and will attempt to have a draft plan ready for a January Mini-Advance. One Va'ad member became extremely upset about the 1991 Advance being held at Wildwood again, since Wildwood does not permit children. The issue will be discussed at the August Va'ad meeting, since there is not agreement about whether the Advance is an activity at which children should be present. Merry discussed the newly formed Bequests and Donations Committee, and the Va'ad approved the appointment of Tiela Chalmers, Allan Gold and Pam Schaffer as members. The Va'ad passed a motion to maintain excess seder subsidies in the suspense fund and have the treasurer consult with next year's seder coordinator on publicizing its availability.

A new advance reservation and ticketing system will be put into effect this year for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Erev Yom Kippur services. Seating in the main sanctuary will be limited to members and guests only, with each member limited to one guest ticket per service. Va'ad members wanted this new policy publicized so those who wished to join in order to receive main sanctuary seating could do so prior to the High Holidays. The Va'ad passed a motion to send out a mailing to all of last year's High Holidays donors, including a membership appli-

cation and dues pledge form. After some concerns were raised about new members joining who had not received sufficient dues education, the mailing was expanded to include a dues education letter written by Ben Schalit during his term as treasurer.

The Va'ad passed two motions presented by the Social Action Committee. The first was to approve a \$200 contribution to the Gay Rescue Mission from the Social Action Fund. The second was to approve a contribution of \$150 to the New Israel Fund towards the transportation of Shirra Dunevich, a civil rights attorney from Israel, who will be speaking at CSZ on Friday, August 10.

Brett Trueman presented a financial statement covering the last quarter of 1989-90. He answered questions and also reported on the status of our various bank accounts and certificates of deposit. Merry thanked Brett for getting the new financial accounting software in place.

The last item on the agenda was leadership development, which had been discussed in some depth at the Advance. Allan Gold had members do an exercise of dividing a pie (100 percent) in wedges showing how we each felt the Va'ad should function. He then led a discussion of the results. The meeting adjourned shortly after 9:30 pm.

(See page 8 for August Va'ad report)

### BAYSIDE LEGAL ADVOCATES

A Community Law Office  
Owned and Operated by  
Women

67-D Hoff Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
415.552.1136

FREE 1/2 HOUR

CONSULTATION WITH THIS AD

- Contracts for Lovers,  
Co-homeowners, Roommates,  
Co-parents, and Business  
Partners
- Wills and Power of Attorney
- Tenant Advocacy
- Personal Injury Claims
- Criminal Representation
- Bankruptcy

Elia Dreyfuss . Marilyn Kalman . Rachel Lederman . Ora Prochovnick



## New Memorial Board

As the High Holidays approach, many of us think of years past and of our loved ones who are no longer here. We think also of the gift of giving that is such a strong tenet of our religion and of Sha'ar Zahav in particular. Several years ago we purchased our first two memorial boards to remember our members, lovers, friends or relatives who have died, and to provide an easy and visible way for donors to make a significant and lasting contribution to CSZ. Unfortunately, death has been no stranger to our congregational family for the last several years and soon there will be no space left on the two boards on which to place memorial plaques. Therefore, we need a new board so that no member will be denied this final remembrance.

A memorial board is a "dedicated item," which means that the cost includes a donation above and beyond the cost of the board itself. That donation entitles the donor to an acknowledgment plaque at the base of the board. The total cost for a memorial board is \$4,500, which may be paid over three years and may be paid by a group of people as well as one generous individual. If you are moved to perform this needed mitzvah and would be willing to consider donating all or part of the dedication cost, please call Allan Gold, chair of the Bequests and Donations Committee, at 929-9524. The lives of our members are blessings; they should not be forgotten.

## Policy

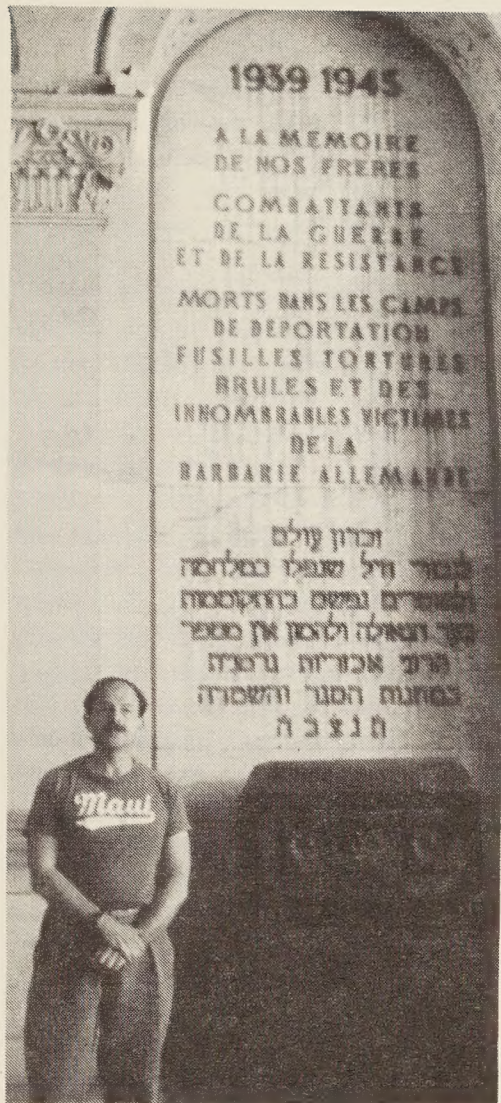
(Continued from page 1)

guest ticket per service they plan to attend. It is likely that we will not be able to honor all guest ticket requests. In that case, they will be allocated on a first-requested first-served basis.

Please remember that the ticket policy applies to the two evening services only. **Everyone is welcome to attend services in the main sanctuary during the day.**

It is our sincere hope that next year we can move our High Holiday services to a location large enough to accommodate in one space all who come to worship with us. In the meantime, thank you for your patience and flexibility.

—Claudia Bernard, High Holidays Coordinator



Newsletter chair Howard Blechman in the courtyard of the Synagogue de la Victoire in Paris this summer. Security was so tight (because of the then-recent Jewish cemetery vandalism) that the guard frisked him before entering and only allowed this one photo to be taken. PHOTO BY TÊ PECKAY

## Condolences

To **Steve Davis** on the loss of his friend Matthew Sheiman.

To **Elizabeth Katz** on the loss of her friend Bob Barnett.

To **Paul Cohen, Bob Gutterman, David Gellman, and Allan Gold** on the loss of their friend Dr. Jim Gordon.

To **Victor Zonona** on the loss of his friend John Brownell.

To **Jonathan Goldman** on the loss of his friend Dennis Klatzkin.

To **Lin Turner** on the loss of his friend Jonathan Orr.

To **Sharyn Saslafsky and Catherine Dodd** on the loss of their friend Patrick Harris.

## Annual Cemetery Visit

Our annual High Holidays visit to Sha'ar Zahav's cemetery at Hills of Eternity will be on Sunday, September 23 at 10 am. This will be our third year of observing the traditional custom of visiting the graves of loved ones during the time between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

At last year's consecration of the cemetery, we paused at the grave of Cheryl Orvis, and also remembered all the members who have died during our 13 years. This remembrance will continue and our short service will again include the names of our departed members.

The Cemetery Committee plans to include another custom this year—the service will be followed by a simple breakfast. For many families, the tradition of meeting at the cemetery to observe *kever avot* was always accompanied by the sharing of a light meal. Because of their beauty and the peaceful environment, cemeteries have historically been used for recreational visits as well as for their intended memorial purpose.

Please contact Paul Cohen at 383-8954 if you plan to attend or if you need directions.

## Bored with Heimlich?

The Women's Chavurah invites both men and women to attend a four-hour CPR class which will teach cardiopulmonary resuscitation of adults. Those who successfully complete the class will receive community certification by the American Red Cross.

The class will be taught by Steve Elman, a longtime CSZ member and seasoned CPR instructor. It will run from 11 am until 3 pm in the synagogue library on Sunday, September 9; cost will be \$20 per student for materials and equipment. Refreshments will be served. If you're interested in attending, call Kate Sharp at 526-2394 between 9:30 am and 9:30 pm. We'd like to get a review book out to participants before the class, so the earlier we hear from you, the better.



## August Va'ad Report

In August Rabbi Kahn led us in the D'var Torah by speaking of the three different Torahs we bring to meetings: (1) Torah in its original sense, with its emphasis on integrity in carrying out the responsibilities of our public trust; (2) "Robert's" Torah, which is our Business Torah of agendas, motions, etc.; and (3) "California Touchy/Feely" or "Feminist" Torah, where process is valued, and we are encouraged to look at the success of how we act interpersonally.

What followed was a discussion facilitated by Susan Colson, covering (1) Va'ad department and (2) the Advance. This session was planned after the July meeting, where one member became extremely upset and emotional about the 1991 Advance being scheduled at Wildwood Resort once again, a location which does not permit children. The first part of the discussion consisted of brainstorming of desirable/undesirable meeting behavior. Then, the Va'ad moved on to brainstorming our needs and wants for the Advance. It was apparent that the majority wanted the Advance to be an adults-only event for synagogue leaders, but felt that no final decision about this should be made at the Va'ad meeting. The session ended with the formation of a five-member committee to address this issue further. After this group meets and coordinates with the Advance Follow-Up Committee, it will report back to the Va'ad.

Rabbi Kahn reported that the publication *Reform Judaism* will be putting out a special issue featuring gay and lesbian rabbis. He also let the Va'ad know that,

although he is very busy and is cutting back on activities, he will always be available to the Va'ad and membership if we need him, and encouraged us to call him. He then reported that Phyllis Mintzer will be hired as principal for Kadimah this year. Rabbi Kahn ended his report by discussing the Jewish Community Federation's solicitation of nominations for board members for various agencies.

Merry Luskin mentioned a letter of congratulations on her presidency from State Sen. Milton Marks. She also informed the Va'ad that Paul Cohen will be coordinating the search for a new location for High Holiday services. Merry discussed the recent controversy about modifications to the Ark. She is gathering information and will discuss it at a future Va'ad meeting. Art in the sanctuary was discussed, and Merry will be contacting the original committee members to see about reactivating the committee. In the meantime no further decision was made about the placement of the framed photograph of the UAHC quilt panel. Merry's report ended with a discussion of temporary office help for High Holidays after which the Va'ad approved a motion to hire, until the end of September, a Soviet Jewish emigre referred by Eric Keitel.

Judy Schwartz of the Membership Committee presented the names of four individuals and four families, and the Va'ad voted to accept them as members. Eric Keitel reported that new Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur machzorim have been printed and are available for sale to

sibling congregations. The Va'ad approved a motion to set the price at \$4 for Rosh Hashanah and \$5 for Yom Kippur (plus shipping), and any excess revenues to be deposited in the Prayerbook Fund. Rabbi Kahn informed the Va'ad that Jay Ladin of the Haggadah Writing Committee will be preparing a list identifying each portion of the Haggadah by author. Robin Leonard will prepare a cover letter to Garry Koenigsburg requesting information as to what his contributions were.

Don Albert, co-chair of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations, informed the Va'ad that net revenue from the events is \$9,711 (almost four times the budgeted amount), and money is still arriving. He expressed his thanks to Co-Chair Susan Gelmis and to the other members of the Anniversary Committee for all their hard work: George Lucas, Judy Schwartz and Ralph Frischman. The Va'ad thanked Don by acclamation for his own excellent work on this event.

Jeffrey Miller reported that a catered dinner is scheduled for Friday, September 14 before services. He and Marc Mencher are coordinating it, and will try to do it monthly.

Mike Rankin, UAHC liaison, reported that he will be joining a committee on homosexuality which was recently formed by the National Association of Temple Educators. He also mentioned that the UAHC region is recruiting new members for both the board and the committee. Mike ended his report by suggesting that CSZ sponsor an entertainment evening during the 1993 UAHC biennial meeting—perhaps a concert by the Gay Men's Chorus and the Women's Philharmonic.

Eric Keitel gave the treasurer's report for Brett Trueman, who was absent. He answered what questions he could, and noted others for Brett to respond to when he returns. Tiela Chalmers and Gail Friedlander reminded the Va'ad that a training session for the new Va'ad on how to read and interpret budgets and financial statements was proposed at the July meeting, to begin this year and continue at the beginning of each future year. Mark Pressler, office manager, took corrections to the calendar. After evaluation, the meeting adjourned just past 9:30 pm. A closed Va'ad session concluded the meeting.



## HIGHLANDS RESORT

### WINE COUNTRY

*Peaceful. Beautiful. Friendly*

CABINS • CAMPING • HOT TUB • POOL

On Four Acres, Three Blocks to Main Street

P.O. Box 346-G Guerneville, CA 95446 (707) 869-0333

*Free Brochure*



## Autumn Kadimah Update

**K**adimah ("beginning")—our Saturday morning children's religious school will begin classes on September 8.

As we begin our third year, we will continue the format of one aleph and one bet class. We will divide the children into each class by age. Phyllis Mintzer, one of our excellent teachers and the mainstay of our school, will be returning this year as the principal of our school.

As in the past, Rabbi Kahn will be attending and leading various sessions of our classes. He and Phyllis have planned an exciting year of fun activities that will help our children and their parents participate more fully in their Jewish and gay families.

Kadimah needs help from members of the congregation. For smoother running of our classes, we need two teacher assistants each Saturday. Men are especially invited to participate, since most of our volunteers have been women. Non-parents are also encouraged to become active in our school. If you can help even just one Saturday morning, please call.

This year we have two new co-chairs of the Religious School Committee—Ellen Gierson and Peter Vishniac. Please call them at the synagogue with any questions or if you are interested in volunteering as a teacher assistant.



Catherine Dodd and Shirley Liberman.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

## Sibling Notes

**T**here are now 43 gay/lesbian Jewish organizations around the world (29 are members of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations), representing eight countries on four continents. I won't be reporting on all their activities, but here's a sampling of what our siblings have been up to.

**Am Segulah** (West Hartford)—has recently appointed Rabbi Chana Timoner as its new religious director.

**Am Tikvah** (Boston)—after many years of struggle, finally was granted tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service, retroactive to October 18, 1989.

**Beth Ahavah** (Philadelphia)—calls its board the Va'ad! I don't think this is new news, but I never noticed it before.

**Beth Chayim Chadashim** (Los Angeles)—had more than 20 women attend the first meeting of the BCC Sisterhood.

They planned spiritual and social activities for the coming year.

**Bet Mishpachah** (Washington)—has formed a Rabbinic Search Committee to coordinate the effort to hire a part-time rabbi. They hope to hire someone by this fall. (See article this page.)

**Etz Chaim** (Miami)—is forming a Rabbi Search Committee.

**Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group** (London) and **Beit Haverim** (Paris)—our siblings in London hosted members of Beit Haverim over gay and lesbian pride weekend. Two weeks later, members of the Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group flew to Paris to celebrate the weekend with Beit Haverim.

## D.C. Rabbi Search

**Bet Mishpachah**, the gay and lesbian synagogue of Washington, D.C., has initiated a nationwide search to hire the congregation's first rabbi. The 15-year-old congregation will be one of only a few gay and lesbian synagogues in the United States to hire a rabbi.

Interested candidates should submit a resume by October 15 to: Rabbinic Search Committee, c/o Bet Mishpachah, P.O. Box 1410, Washington, DC 20013. For further information, contact Larry Neff at (202) 387-7078.

## Naches

To **Randy Heilbrunn** on his recent graduation from Golden Gate University with an MBA in marketing.

To **Mike Rankin**, who has won the 1989 "Hands and Heart" award from the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs.



Photo not by Michael Bettinger (left).



## Logistics

*(Continued from page 1)*

throughout the congregation in readings, chants, and Torah cantillation. In addition, members of the synagogue will be delivering the daytime sermons. The congregation will be addressed on the first day of Rosh Hashanah by Lori Ubell (see accompanying article, "The Akeidah: Sarah's Point of View," on page 2) and on the second day of Rosh Hashanah by Larry Wexler. The daytime sermon on Yom Kippur will be given by Susan Sobel-Feldman.

Please refer to the complete High Holiday schedule on page 1 for exact times and locations of all services. Read below for logistical details.

In addition to our meaningful and varied religious services, a number of related observances and activities also occur during the High Holiday season. Please see the accompanying articles in this issue for details about our High Holiday blood drive, the service at the Sha'ar Zahav cemetery, and our new High Holiday ticket policy for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Erev Yom Kippur.

### Parking

Parking close to the Unitarian Center is at a premium. Meters and street parking restrictions are enforced, yes, even on Jewish holidays. There are a number of nearby lots with various parking charges, but please note that there is *no* parking available at the Unitarian Center. Plan your time to include this search!

### Wheelchair Accessibility

The Unitarian Center is wheelchair accessible, but has extremely limited handicapped parking on the street. Please notify the synagogue office one week in advance if you will need assistance in entering through the special wheelchair entrance.

### Signing at Services

We will be pleased to provide signers for the hearing impaired at any service when needed. Please call the synagogue office one week in advance to schedule.

### Child Care

Child care will be available during each service at the Unitarian Center, beginning 30 minutes in advance of a given service. Space is limited. Reservations must be made one week in advance. Reserve now by calling the office to guarantee space. Those without reservations will be accommodated on a space-available, first-come, first-served basis on the day of the service.

*Donations are requested.* Member's fee per child: \$3 per day service, \$6 per evening service, \$10 for all four services. Non-member's fee per child: \$4 per day service, \$8 per evening service, \$12 for all four services. Please add \$2 for each additional child.

In keeping with the philosophy of CSZ, no one will be turned away for lack of funds. However, you may be asked to contribute in other ways to help defray the cost of child care.

### Children's Services

Special daytime High Holiday services for children will be held concurrently with the adult daytime services at the Unitarian Center. On Rosh Hashanah, the service will begin at 10 am in the small chapel. Parents are asked to attend and participate in the service with their children. Later in the day, children will especially enjoy the picnic and Tashlich service at Fort Point. On Yom Kippur, the children's service will be held at 10 am in the small chapel.

### Environmental Sensitivities

In order to accommodate those with environmental sensitivities, a section of the Starr King Room at the Unitarian Center will be designated "chemically free." Your cooperation is requested in reserving this section for those who are environmentally sensitive. Please sit in this area only if you are not wearing colognes or perfumes, and do not have the scent of tobacco, etc.

### Reading of Names at Our Yom Kippur Yizkor Service

At our Yom Kippur Yizkor service, we read the names of deceased family members and friends of Sha'ar Zahav members whose names are on the synagogue's *yahrzeit* list. This includes the names of those whose *yahrzeit* is regularly observed by the congregation,

and the names of members' loved ones who have died in the past year. As a courtesy to members' guests and others visiting our synagogue during the High Holidays, we can also recall their loved ones.

*To add a name to the list to be read at Yizkor, use the sign-up sheets available at the membership table in the lobby of the Unitarian Center on Rosh Hashanah. We ask that you submit names no later than the end of the first day of Rosh Hashanah.*

### Festival Picnic and Tashlich

Everyone is invited to our festival picnic, or *seudat mitzvah*, at Fort Point (below the Golden Gate Bridge; directions will be provided) following Rosh Hashanah Musaf services. Later, at 3:30 pm, we'll hold a brief Tashlich service, which includes the ritual "shedding" of the previous year and the casting away of sins into the water. Israeli dancing will follow. Bring your own picnic; we'll provide the crumbs to cast away!


### Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services

The second day of Rosh Hashanah will be observed in our own sanctuary at 220 Danvers. Please note that we will not have a Second Day Ma'ariv (evening) service on Thursday. Our Second Day observance will begin on Friday morning, September 21. These services are unique in their solemn yet informal nature. Being held in our sanctuary gives an added "hamish" feel to our beautiful holiday observance. See the High Holiday schedule on page 1 for details.

### Onegs and Break Fast

Join us for an oneg and kiddush after Rosh Hashanah Ma'ariv (evening) services at the Unitarian Center. In place of an oneg after Rosh Hashanah Musaf services at the Unitarian Center, join us for our *seudat mitzvah* at Fort Point (see

*Continued on page 11*



**MOUSE  
TYPE  
INC.**

**Need to prepare a flyer  
for your chavurah's  
next event?**

**Call Mouse Type.  
558-8998**

**We typeset the *Forward* every month.**



## Caring—Good for All of Us

“**Bikkur cholim**” literally means visiting the sick. But this is only one of the activities with which the Bikkur Cholim Committee is involved. Bikkur Cholim, however, is not a committee activity, per se, but rather an individual and congregational responsibility—rewarding and enriching one-on-one experiences between those who are able to give and those who are in need at a given time. The scope of bikkur cholim and other forms of support we offer as a congregation is limited only by the participation of our members. Our ongoing support to members (and others in the Bay Area Jewish community) provides pride, joy, comfort and security to all at CSZ in knowing that we can be there for each other in good times as well as those of adversity.

I encourage you to get involved, whether that means offering your assistance for regularly scheduled activities, being “on call” when needed, or sharing your ideas and energy with our committee to explore how we can best meet the needs of our fast-growing congregation.

The following are some of *your* opportunities to participate in CSZ’s bikkur cholim activities in the upcoming month:

- It is a CSZ annual tradition to collect food for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank on Kol Nidre. Collection boxes will be located at the Unitarian Center on Friday evening, September 28. Your generosity is needed and appreciated.

- Do you have a car? If you are regularly/sometimes available during the day, we need CSZ members to transport other members to medical appointments. To add your name to the list of those able to perform this mitzvah, please call me.

- CSZ’s monthly pot luck brunch at Kaiser Hospital will be held on September 30 at 10:30 am. This event gives a tremendous lift to the AIDS patients, Kaiser staff and CSZ members who attend.

- Help us bring High Holiday greetings to Jewish residents at the Hillhaven and Park nursing homes during our visit, Sunday, September 23.

- October 12 is the date for our next quarterly service and visit to the Jewish Home for the Aged. The touch of a hand or twinkle in the eye of just one resident always gives me a glow that lasts until the next visit. A short (approximately 30

minutes) service is held, followed by a half hour oneg. Come along to schmooze and sing a few songs. We especially need service leaders to volunteer. Visiting children are also much appreciated by the residents.

- Can you offer a ride to CSZ for a Friday night service or to the Unitarian Center for High Holiday services for a disabled person?

Please call me with questions, concerns and ideas. I can be reached at home at 731-4360 evenings and weekends.

—Lane Schickler  
Chair, Bikkur Cholim Committee

## Annual Blood Drive

The annual Sha’ar Zahav blood drive, sponsored by the Women’s Chavurah and the Brotherhood on behalf of our community, will be held on Saturday, September 22 at the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 270 Masonic Ave. (at Turk Street, with *free parking*) from 10:30 am until 2:30 pm. As in the past, it’s a fun day with the Brotherhood providing special homemade goodies for those (mostly women) who donate “the gift of life.”

In 1989, Irwin had to import some of the blood needed in the Bay Area from other states. We are now 5 percent short of community needs for the 47 area hospitals providing 10,000 transfusions per month. Your pint of blood may be processed into platelets, plasma, red blood cells and cytoprecipitates and can benefit as many as two or three patients.

So, roll up your sleeve and donate on the last day of summer. Don’t forget that blood in our account is available to be used by members of Sha’ar Zahav and their families. Please call Kate Sharp at 526-2394 to schedule your appointment or to volunteer to help in other ways.

Although Irwin generously provides donuts, juices, and other similar nourishments, it has been our custom to treat donors to homemade goodies. Please call Allan Berenstein at 863-8033 to volunteer to bring some goodies or to help out on September 22. For information or questions about eligibility or the process, call Jonathan Goldman at 641-4231. Thank you and see you there!

## Logistics

(Continued from page 10)

above). Services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah will be followed by an afternoon oneg at CSZ.

Join us after Neilah, the closing service of Yom Kippur, for a break fast at the Unitarian Center. A table will be provided where those following macrobiotic/vegetarian diets can bring food for their break fast.

### Shabbat Shuvah

Shabbat Shuvah, the Sabbath of Return, is the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We will observe it at Friday evening services on September 21 and on Saturday morning in our sanctuary. See the High Holiday schedule on page 1.

### Healing Service

A liturgy for healing service will take place on the afternoon of Shabbat Shuvah, September 22, at 4 pm in the sanctuary of the synagogue. This service is open to everyone—those who are ill, those who are living with illness, those who are mourning a loss, and all who wish to join us in prayer and reflection. The afternoon service concludes with Havdalah.

### AIDS Food Drive

One of the reasons for fasting on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have done for the last three years, CSZ will collect non-perishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at our Kol Nidre service. Please bring a bag of food items as part of your Yom Kippur observance.

Continued on page 14

Calligraphy		
		
Ketubot Invitations		
		
	Modern Traditional Illustration	
Robin Hall Rich Sigberman 415-668-8832		



## Anniversary Party Photos



13th Anniversary Committee Chairs Susan Gelmis and Don Albert PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER



Daniel Chesir, founder (on right) with his lover, Stefan Rowniak PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER



Susan Unger, Rabbi Kahn join others dancing the hora. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER



Rabbi Kahn leading Havdalah service. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER



## Anniversary Party Photos



*Alan Harris, Jeffrey Stermann, and Eric Rofes, executive director of Shanti Project. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER*



*CSZ Children (and their mothers) also had a bang. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER*



*13th Anniversary Committee (l. to r.): Scott Mezistrano, Elliot Gordon, Judy Schwartz, George Lucas, Sharon Saslafsky, Ralph Frischman, and Barry Siegel. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER*



## Yahrzeits

- 1 Gus Liebowitz, grandfather of Robin Leonard
- 1 (Elul 11) Maurice Ash, father of Terry Rothchild Rose
- 1 (Elul 11) Rebecca Gelfman, grandmother of Henry Mach
- 2 John Golebowski, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 3 Nathan Hyman, father of Frank Hyman
- 3 Lee Gierson, father of Ellen Gierson
- 4 Abraham Parker, father of Harold Parker
- 5 Meyer Hirst, grandfather of Milton Estes
- 6 Annabel Fieldman, aunt of Judith Mara Wolfe
- 8 (Elul 18) Samuel Albert, grandfather of Don Albert
- 10 (Elul 20) Edward Wolberg, father of Ron Wolberg
- 10 (Elul 20) Fritzzy Greenspan, mother of Susan Greenspan
- 10 (Elul 20) Frances Cohen, sister of Bernard Pechter
- 12 John Lerse, uncle of Carol Hoffman
- 13 Ida Prengler, grandmother of Ann Biderman
- 14 Elizabeth Bellm, grandmother of Dan Bellm
- 15 David Pierce, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 18 (Elul 28) Frieda Fine Goldstein, mother of Bill Goldstein
- 19 Enid Feld, cousin of Ed L.
- 19 Gershon Lieberman, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 19 (Elul 29) Doris Fink, friend of Carol Cohen
- 20 (Tishri 1) Rose Richshafer, grandmother of Sherie Ann Koshover
- 20 (Tishri 1) Barney Sacks, grandfather of Mark Mencher
- 21 (Tishri 2) Philip Yanofsky, father of Allen Harris
- 22 William Osofsky, father of Stan Osofsky
- 23 Fannie Stein, mother of David Stein
- 24 (Tishri 5) Frances Sporn, mother of Sherry Sporn
- 25 Albert Leiss, brother of Walt Leiss
- 26 Abraham Siegel, grandfather of Barry Siegel
- 27 Yuriel Schoenbach, father of Ruth Schoenbach

- 29 Albert Stein, father of David Stein
- 30 (Tishri 11) Lena Witt, grandmother of Sue Witt
- 30 Minnie Brill, mother of Leonard Brill
- 30 (Tishri 11) Jacob Leiss, father of Walt Leiss

## More 13th Anniversary Donors

*(Excluding Patrons, Benefactors, Sponsors and those acknowledged in last month's Forward)*

- Rabbi Howard Berman
- Oscar and Zelda Blechman
- Rabbi Richard Block
- Sue Broad
- Rabbi Herbert Bronstein
- Susan Colson
- Penny Dachinger
- Maryann De Pietro
- Derek Durst
- Rabbi Morley Feinstein
- Rabbi Marla Feldman
- Mr. & Mrs. M.B. Albert
- Andre Fournier
- Ellen Friedman & Louis Blomberg
- Susan Gelmis & Kate Steane
- Daniel Funk & Marcia Gittes
- Sam Gluskin
- Rabbi Rosalind Gold
- Rabbis Linda & Stephen Goodman
- Carol E. Heller
- John Hirsch & Herb Lehman
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hirsch
- Allan & Tybil Kahn
- Rabbi Earl Kaplan
- Rose Katz
- Rabbi Stuart & Victoria Kelman
- Donna Karones & Ronnie Gilbert
- Mr. & Mrs. R. Leonard
- Rabbi Arnold Levine
- Sam & Sophie Lezell
- Rabbi Charles Lippman
- Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keeffe
- Steve Polsky
- Rhona Rosenberg
- Rabbi Judy Shanks
- Rabbi Ray A. Soloff
- Rabbi Jack Stern
- Rabbi Marc Belgrade
- Rabbi Joshua Taub
- Richard Wilson
- Rabbi Jim Simon

## Selichot

**W**hat do we mean by "sin"? Having been told by society that how we live is "sinful," most of us have dropped the word—and certainly the concept—from our vocabulary. Yet it appears again and again in our liturgy during the High Holidays. Contemporary and traditional Jewish teaching on the concepts of sin and forgiveness will be the subject of a discussion at Sha'ar Zahav's Selichot service on Saturday evening, September 15.

The High Holidays begin not with Rosh Hashanah but at Selichot on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah. "Selichot" are penitential prayers, traditionally recited at midnight during the week preceding Rosh Hashanah. Our Selichot evening will begin at 9:00 with havdalah, a *bissel* potluck to eat (of course) and a discussion with the rabbi. The Selichot service itself is an introduction to the themes, melodies and texts of the High Holiday season.

## Logistics

*(Continued from page 11)*

### Sukkot

Services for Sukkot, the first of the three pilgrimage festivals, will be held at 8:15 pm on Wednesday, October 3, and at 10:30 am on Thursday, October 4.

Our congregational Sukkot celebration and potluck will be on Sunday, October 7, at 6:45 pm at the home of Allan Gold and Gary Glasser in San Francisco. Please call Steve Elman at 651-5857 if you can help build the sukkah on Sunday, September 30 at 12 noon or decorate it at 1:30 pm, or if you have decorations or branches to contribute to the sukkah.

### Simchat Torah

On Simchat Torah we celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah and then immediately begin the new cycle for the new year. Join us for evening services on Wednesday, October 10, and again on Thursday morning, October 11.

### Begin Your Year with a Mitzvah!

Volunteer to usher, help with onegs, set up the sanctuary, lead the overflow services, or do child care. Call our High Holiday coordinators: Scott Mezistrano at 681-1714, or Claudia Bernard at 647-1196.



# 13th Anniversary Gala Report

This past June, Sha'ar Zahav celebrated its Bar/Bat Mitzvah with three of the most successful events in our history. Early in the month many members joined our scholar-in-residence, Rabbi Stacey Offner for a stimulating study session about the Book of Ruth. Rabbi Offner also delivered a moving sermon the previous Friday night.

On June 29 we filled the Unitarian Center for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service. Seasoned as well as newer members were touched by one of our most beautiful services. Mayor Art Agnos accepted Sha'ar Zahav's first Community Recognition Award and inspired us with his remarks about our role in local and national events. He presented us with a mayoral proclamation, making that day "Sha'ar Zahav Day" in San Francisco.

Our other honorees, Sharon Silverman and Rabbis Martin Weiner and Robert Kirschner, were called to the Torah for aliyot and received plaques at the conclusion of the service. Their individual remarks reinforced our feelings about support and participation of the San Francisco Jewish Community.

The anniversary service would only be complete if we recognized the contributions of our membership and our leadership. Daniel Chesir, a founder, past-president, and chair of many committees was surprised by a call to the Torah for the final aliyah. With this honor, Daniel represented the entire membership of the congregation.

At dusk on Saturday, June 30, Rabbi Kahn led us in Havdallah on the balcony of the Green Room of the San Francisco War Memorial. The gala party had begun; members and their guests danced gaily 'til midnight to the music of Hot Borscht. The attire was festive and partygoers munched on delicious desserts while sipping champagne. It was unquestionably a beautiful and memorable event.

The fundraising aspect of the 13th Anniversary was equally successful with net proceeds of \$10,000. Our thanks to all anniversary sponsors, benefactors, patrons, and everyone else who made a donation.

No Sha'ar Zahav event would be a success without the hours of hard work

by volunteers. Our special thanks to the following: Anniversary Committee Co-Chairs Susan Gelmis and Don Albert and committee members Ralph Frischman, George Lucas and Judy Schwartz; Past-President Eric Keitel, Public Relations Chair Sharyn Saslaffsky, Ritual Committee Liaison Scott Mezistrano, Forward Co-Chairs Howard Blechman and Alita Rosenfeld, Education Committee Chair Elliot Gordon, Oneg Chair Lin Turner, and party planner Barry Siegel.

Special thanks to these individuals who helped in many varied ways: Audrey Adelson, Leslie Bergson, Mike Bronn, Phil Charney, Dan Chesir, Rosalinda del Moral, Catherine Dodd, Steve Elman, Gerry Geffner, Susan Greenspan, Joella Harlan, Kirk Hinman, Alex Ingersoll, Richard Inlander, Debbi Jacobs-Levine, Eric Kamm, Lisa Katz, Robin Leonard, Ron Lezell, Merry Luskin, Frank Masson, Marc Mencher, Jonathan Messinger, Eve Meyer, Nancy Meyer, Irene Ogus, Andrea Piazza, Carolyn Pines, Ora Prochovnick, Jaz Puberman, Mike Rankin, Jerry Rosenstein, Lee Ryan, Josh Schectel, Kathy Simon, Nancy Snow, Kate Steane, David Stein, Bob Stull, Michele Sullivan, Dana Vinicoff, Eli Weinstein, Steve Weitz, and Larry Wexler.

Finally, our very special thanks to Rabbi Kahn for his support and guidance in our anniversary celebration.

## Oneg Sponsors

During June, July and August, onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 6/1 Allan Berenstein, honoring Leslie Bergson's seminary admission
- 6/8 Members of the Bikkur Cholim Committee, honoring Sen Talley
- 6/15 Leo and Stella Luskin, honoring Merry's installation.
- 6/22 Jonathan Goldman, in memory of Roger Vickery.
- 7/20 Lorraine Nacamulli, in honor of Rabbi Kahn.
- 7/27 Mike Rankin, honoring those who staffed the UAHC booth at the AIDS conference.
- 8/3 Allan and Elaine Orvis, remembering Cheryl's birthday.
- 8/10 Jody Adelberg and Louanne Jenkins, welcoming their new baby.
- 8/17 Jerry Rosenstein, honoring the new Va'ad and officers.
- 8/24 Mr. and Mrs. Miller, honoring their son Jeffery's election to the Va'ad.
- 8/31 Randy Meyers and Caroline Isaacs, honoring the visit of their parents.

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.



*Members and guests in the Green Room (gussied up for the gala).*

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER



## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### AIDS Fund

Lillian & Gerard Landsberger, in memory of Mark Landsberger  
 Mark-Leigh Associates, in memory of Michael Spencer  
 Jeffery Miller, in memory of my friend Tom Ruggiero  
 Randall Heilbrun, in memory of Dr. Richard Carson, a gifted healer

### Education Fund

Dennis Bates, in honor of the Friends of Israel Tour Committee for bringing the Names Project Quilt to Israel

### General Fund

Lee Morrow, in celebration of friendship with Beverly Goldin  
 John Arnold, in honor of Jon Funk's birthday  
 Richard Inlander, in honor of the speedy recovery of Susan Horst  
 R. Sanchez, in memory of my good friend John Robert Kanin  
 Jonathan Funk, in honor of Walt Liess's hospitality  
 Richard Inlander, in honor of Joyce Ladar's good counsel  
 Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, in honor of Ron & Sharon Lewkowitz' new home  
 Mr. & Mrs. Funk  
 Evan Luskin, in honor of Merry Luskin, on her becoming president of the congregation  
 Gerald Rosenstein, in honor of Jonathan Funk  
 Caroline Isaacs, in memory of Laura Heimlich  
 Perry Paker, in memory of his mother, Gussie  
 Judy Schwartz, in honor of Leslie Bergson for her acceptance into rabbinic school, and H. Blechman, D. Chesir, R. Frischman, A. Ingersoll, and Rabbi Kahn

### High Holidays Fund

Gerald Rosenstein, in honor of Al Baum's 60th birthday

### Library Fund

Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, in honor of Dale Rosenthal and Michael Cutler's new home.

### Prayerbook Fund

Lolma & Beth Olsen-Reed, in honor of our one-year commitment anniversary

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rabbi & Mrs. Robinson, in honor of the 13th anniversary  
 Rick Crane  
 Mark Mackler & Ingu Yun, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's service to the congregation  
 Robert & Lorraine Nacamulli, in memory of Angelo Nacamulli  
 Daniel H., in memory of Sara Halpern  
 Dennis Bates, in honor of Ron Lezell

### Torah Fund

Daniel & Helen Quinn, in honor of Steven Roy Unger  
 Robert Coffman

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in June. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Pam Waterstone, Robin Lowrey and their baby Max

Carolyn Reiser and Karen Shorofsky

Cheryl Mann

Karen Erlichman

Rebekah Sutin

Joan Monheit

Arnie Jackson and Richard Wright

Misha Cohen and Karen Woodruff

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

- 1 Alexander Louis Konski
- 1 Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli
- 1 Tom Rothgiesser
- 2 Sharon Simma Lieberman
- 2 Jeff Friedman
- 3 Sandra Morris
- 3 Wendy O.
- 5 Jeff Miller
- 6 Lee Ryan
- 6 Rosalinda del Moral
- 7 Al Baum
- 9 Jeremy Glen Hoffman
- 9 Mark Weisman
- 12 Robin Leonard
- 14 Kipp Leyser
- 18 Marvin Steele
- 19 Rob Tat
- 20 Elizabeth Katz
- 21 Janine M. Baer
- 21 Steven Cronenwalt
- 21 Elliot Gordon
- 22 Roslyn Fuerman
- 23 Marianne D. Ades
- 23 Diana Nahouraii
- 24 Stuart Michael Bronn
- 25 Jean-Charles Bellour

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Anniversaries

- 15 Jerome Hips & Sanford Friedman
- 19 Ben Schalit & Richard Inlander
- 27 Susan Gelmis & Kate Steane
- 30 Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Real Estate Talk

Everything you ever wanted to know about real estate!

Responding to many requests for information, Shirley Liberman will hold an informal discussion on the varied aspects of San Francisco Real Estate on Wednesday, October 17 in the CSZ library at 7:30 pm. Light refreshments will be available (of course) and admission is free but it is essential that you call in advance to participate. Call Shirley at 863-7500 ext. 123. Members and friends welcome. Bring your specific questions and/or problems or just come along for general information.



## Angel Island Picnic

Join us Sunday, September 16 for a picnic on Angel Island State Park and Wildlife Reserve where there are miles of scenic hiking and biking. We will meet at Pier 43½ near Fisherman's Wharf at 9:40 am. The ferry leaves for the island at 10 am, so be prompt! Round trip tickets cost \$7 for adults and \$4 for children (ages 5 to 11). Ferries return to San Francisco at 2:40 and 4:25 pm. Bring the bike! Bring the kids! And don't forget your picnic basket. We expect to have lots of sun and fun! For more information, call Marc Mencher at 626-9592. (Ferry information: 546-2896.)

## JF Council To Meet in SF

The Council of Jewish Federations' 59th General Assembly will be held in San Francisco, Tuesday-Saturday, November 13-18, at the Hilton and Parc 55 hotels. The assembly is the largest annual gathering of Jewish leaders in North America; 4,000 people are expected to attend the 400 meetings, plenaries, business sessions, forums, workshops and receptions.

The GA is calling out for help. They estimate that they will need 1,000 volunteers from the Bay Area to staff the information desk, message center, delegates' lounge and gift shop; to monitor meetings; to guide delegates around the hotels; and to oversee other volunteers. You'll receive complimentary admission on the day you volunteer and will be able to fully participate in all the GA's events of that day. If you'd like to attend the entire GA, Bay Area residents will be offered a reduced registration fee of about \$100.

To volunteer, or to find out more information, call Susan Mall, GA Coordinator, or JoBeth Kaufman, GA Volunteer Coordinator, at 777-2141.

(Note: In November 1978, the last time the GA was in San Francisco, I attended as a college delegate from New Jersey. I spent as much time at the "Chinatown," "Alcatraz," and "North Beach" workshops as I did at the GA sessions themselves, but I remember the great numbers and variety of delegates at the convention. I hope CSZ will have a sizable presence.)

—Robin Leonard

## Synagogue Information

**Rabbi Yoel Kahn**

### Officers:

*President*, Merry Luskin  
*Vice President*, Allan Gold  
*Treasurer*, Brett Trueman  
*Recorder*, Gail Friedlander

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Claudia Bernard  
Ann Biderman  
Tiela Chalmers  
Lisa Katz  
Jeffrey Miller  
Jose Luis Moscovich  
Alita Rosenfeld  
Judy Schwartz  
Lin Turner

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, Lane Schickler  
*Brotherhood*, Eric Keitel  
*Building*, Jeffrey Miller  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollack  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah*, Aaron Cooper  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Education*, Elliot Gordon  
*Finance*, Ben Schalit  
*Gift Shop*, Bill Ashley-Dobbin  
*Israel Chavurah*, Ron Lezell  
*Long-Range Planning*, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir  
*Membership*, Nancy-Carol Adler  
*Newsletter*, Howard Blechman & Alita Rosenfeld  
*Oneg*, Lin Turner  
*Past Presidents Council*, Don Albert  
*Personnel*, Irene Ogus  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslasky  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Aaron Cooper  
*Religious School*, Ellen Gierson & Peter Vishniac  
*Ritual*, Larry Wexler  
*Social Program*, Marc Mencher

*Social Action*, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz

*Spirituality Chavurah*, Larry Wexler

*Women's Chavurah*, Ann Biderman

*World Congress Liaison*, Eric Keitel

### Office Personnel:

*Manager*, Mark Pressler  
*Secretary*, Josephine Crimmins

**Office Hours:** Mon. 8-5; Tues. 8-4:30; Wed., Thu. 8-2:30; Fri. 8-3. Phones will be answered Mon.-Fri. 10-2.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second and last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Richard Inlander, Mike Rankin, Liaisons) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Robin Leonard, Liaison).

*Dr. Diane Sabin*

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300



## SEPTEMBER

## אלול - תשרי

<b>1</b> Saturday 11 Elul	<b>10</b> Monday 20 Elul	<b>16</b> Sunday 26 Elul	<b>23</b> Sunday 4 Tishri
<b>2</b> Sunday 12 Elul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> <li>6:30pm, Va'ad meeting</li> <li>7:30-10pm, Gift shop open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Angel Island picnic</li> </ul>	<b>Autumn begins</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Cemetery visit</li> <li>11:30am, Nursing home visits</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Monday 13 Elul <b>Labor Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> </ul>	<b>11</b> Tuesday 21 Elul	<b>17</b> Monday 27 Elul	<b>24</b> Monday 5 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Education Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Preparing for the High Holidays, Rabbi Kahn, Library</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> <li>7-10pm, Gift shop open</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> Tuesday 14 Elul	<b>12</b> Wednesday 22 Elul	<b>18</b> Tuesday 28 Elul	<b>25</b> Tuesday 6 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Education Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Long-Range Planning</li> <li>6:30pm, Finance</li> <li>7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Newsletter proofing/layout, 1711 Castro</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7-10pm, Gift shop open</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> Wednesday 15 Elul	<b>13</b> Thursday 23 Elul	<b>19</b> Wednesday 29 Elul	<b>26</b> Wednesday 7 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Finance Committee, 2865 Jackson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Ritual Committee meeting</li> <li>7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim</li> </ul>	<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Services, Rosh Hashanah Ma'ariv, Susan Gelmis and Bill Schlichter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Fiction Connection, Patio Restaurant</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> Thursday 16 Elul	<b>14</b> Friday 24 Elul	<b>20</b> Thursday 1 Tishri	<b>27</b> Thursday 8 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Ritual Committee Meeting</li> <li>6:30pm, Long-Range Planning Meeting, Social Programming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Shabbat dinner</li> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Nizvatim Vayelech, Nancy Carol Adler and Nancy Snow, Sermon by Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<b>Rosh Hashanah—First Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Services, Rosh Hashanah Shacharit, Dana Vinicoff, Tiela Chalmers and Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Ritual Committee</li> <li>7:30pm, Social Action Committee</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> Friday 17 Elul	<b>15</b> Saturday 25 Elul	<b>21</b> Friday 2 Tishri	<b>28</b> Friday 9 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Vayechi, Kathy Simon and Daniel Chesir</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Leavitt at A Different Light</li> <li>9:00pm, Selichot Potluck and Preparing for the High Holidays, Part 2, Rabbi Kahn and Nancy Snow</li> </ul>	<b>Rosh Hashanah—Second Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:15pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Ha'azinu, Shabbat Shuvah Ma'ariv, Daniel Chesir and Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<b>Kol Nidre</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Kol Nidre, Susan Unger and Jon Funk, childcare available</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> Saturday 18 Elul	<b>22</b> Saturday 3 Tishri	<b>29</b> Saturday 10 Tishri	<b>30</b> Sunday 11 Tishri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, Morning Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, Sha'ar Zahav blood drive, Irwin Memorial</li> <li>10:30am, Services, Ha'azinu, Shabbat Shuvah Shacharit, Tiela Chalmers and Rabbi Kahn</li> <li>4pm, Healing Service, Frank Masson and Susan Unger</li> </ul>	<b>Yom Kippur</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, Morning Services, Yom Kippur, Dana Vinicoff and Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco</li> </ul>
<b>9</b> Sunday 19 Elul			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, CPR training</li> </ul>			

## Classifieds

WANTED: BIG BROTHER(S) for a nice Jewish boy, age 7, bright, creative, likes to draw, read stories and climb trees. He lives in East Bay but would be glad to meet a Big Brother who lives elsewhere. If you would like to explore this mitzvah opportunity, please call Rabbi Kahn.

No more schlepping to Palo Alto ...  
Buy your New Year's cards  
at our Gift Shop this year.